

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
IOWA CITY, IOWA #636A8
JUSTIFICATION FOR OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION**

JUSTIFICATION

In accordance with the requirements of FAR 6.302-1, 6.303, and 6.304, I submit the following justifications:

1. The action being approved is a proposed acquisition of General Electric Telegence Nurse Call System, as a brand name product in accordance with VAAR 852.236-90 – Restriction on Submission and Use of Equal Products, within solicitation VA-263-09-RA-0211, for project, "Renovate Inpatient Medical/Surgical Ward 7E," at the Iowa City, Iowa, VA Medical Center.
2. The medical center needs the Nurse Call equipment to better provide patient care to the Veteran's at the facility. The equipment needs to be compatible with the existing Telegence head end system. The government estimate for the General Electric Telegence Nurse Call System is [REDACTED]
3. The statutory authority permitting other than full and open competition is FAR 6.302-1 – Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements, 41 U.S.C. 253(c)(5), and 38 U.S.C. 8109(b) and VAAR 806.3.
4. Iowa City VAMC currently has Telegence Nurse Call equipment throughout the hospital and any new equipment must be able to tie-in to the existing equipment. Obtaining the same equipment is necessary to maintain continuity throughout the hospital. Other Nurse Call systems would leave gaps in the system violating Joint Commission.
5. The solicitation for the construction project containing this requirement shall be posted on FedBizOpps as well as this J&A IAW FAR 5.102(a)(6).
6. It is determined that the anticipated cost to the Government will be fair and reasonable.
7. Market research and Engineer's personal experience determined that there are no other systems compatible with the Iowa City VA Medical Center's Telegence head end system. Other vendor's offering Nurse Call systems would have to reinstall a new Nurse Call System to the entire facility, which would be cost prohibitive.
8. There are currently no specifications for this requirement that would facilitate full and open competition as the manufacturer's particular brand name product and features are essential to the Government's requirements, and market research indicates other companies' similar products will not meet the agency's needs. The vendor's proprietary equipment is currently our Nurse Call head end and any additional equipment must be compatible with the head end equipment.
9. There are no sources that have expressed a written interest in this acquisition.

10. There are currently no specifications for this requirement that would facilitate full and open competition. Full and open competition for this specific requirement could be provided if there were additional suppliers of equipment compatible with the Telegence Nurse Call system. As this equipment is already utilized at the Iowa City, VAMC, the only other option would be to find a vendor offering a system compatible with the current Nurse Call system which could be integrated with the current equipment.

APPROVAL

Based on the foregoing findings, I hereby determine, within the meaning of FAR 6.302-1 and in accordance with VAAR 806.304 and the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 that:

- a. It is in the best interest of the Iowa City VA Medical Center to acquire the General Electric Telegence Nurse Call System for the "Renovate Inpatient Medical/Surgical Ward 7E," construction project.

Upon the basis of these justifications, I hereby authorize the sole source solicitation for this procurement and by signing this document certify that the justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.


Contracting Officer

2/7/09
DATE